

## ARE UNDER HOT FIRE

House Truants Incur Displeasure of Leaders.

## RIGID RULE IN PROSPECT

Loss of Salary Threatened for Absence Without Leave.

## SEQUEL TO THE THROWDOWN

Success of Insurgents and Democrats Yesterday in Recommending Legislative Appropriation Bill.

"Stay on the job or get docked a day's wages." This is the ultimatum to the truants of the House which the republican leaders are considering today. The "crisp rules," which provided that penalty for absenteeism, may be invoked again, and the rules and precedents are being looked up.

As result of the throwdown of the regulars by the "insurgent" republicans and democrats and the taking of their candy away from them last night, the House leaders are as mad today as a lot of wet hens. They were going around wearing an expression of face which suggested that they could bite a ten-penny nail in two.

Consultation of the roll calls of prolonged session last night revealed to the leaders today that exactly sixty republican members absented themselves from the House after 4 o'clock yesterday without leave of absence, or what is more important, without being paired.

## Uncle Joe Sarcastic.

"And there wasn't even the excuse of a base ball game being on," said Uncle Joe Cannon this morning, as he savagely bit off an inch and a half of a big black cigar and glared around at Busbey as if it were his fault.

This habit of leaving the House when the Stock Exchange closes will have to stop, it is said, for the "insurgents" and democrats don't keep stock exchange hours. Most of the latter come from sections where folks don't shut up shop and put up the front shutters till supper time, which is 7 o'clock.

Consequently they were on hand yesterday evening and "put one over" on the leaders by recommending the legislative appropriation bill. In vain did the House whip call up the hotels, apartment houses and clubs during the program and the roll calls. Members glibly promised to attend and then went calmly on with their game of bridge or their contemplated motor ride on the Potomac. They had on the tapis. Nary a one showed up.

## Rule Under Speaker Crisp.

The rule put into effect when Crisp was Speaker to compel attendance by docking the absentees' salaries proved very effective. To be sure, there were indignant protests from the members, but all the same, after the heartless sergeant-at-arms had snipped a bit of salary several times, it was noted that members would find it more difficult to make arrangements with the whip of the House before departing from the Capitol, and put in a formal application for leave.

The insurgent republicans are hoping that the leaders will come across with the contemplated proposition. It would involve a change of the rules, they say, and they are just waiting for a day in the hope and with the fervent prayer that the majority will open up to the question of changing the rules.

## Hardest of Jobs.

Pity the sorrows of a poor old regular these parlor times. Running the House of Representatives is harder, it is said, than operating a big plant with fourteen different kinds of labor organizations on the job.

The temper of the leaders was shown at the outset of the session today. John Dwight, the republican whip, made the point of no return and a call of the House was ordered. The doors were closed to prevent the escape of those present and the sergeant-at-arms was directed to bring in the absentees.

## FIRE LOSS, \$35,000.

Railway Plant in Norfolk Completely Destroyed.

NORFOLK, Va., March 16.—Fire believed to have been of incendiary origin completely destroyed the engine and boiler plant and engine house at the Seaboard Air Line shops here last night, entailing a loss estimated at \$35,000.

When discovered the blaze had gained considerable headway and for a time threatened the entire plant. The fire will cause considerable inconvenience as it will considerably delay all repair work now in progress.

## TROUBLE IN SECURING JURY.

Trial of Three Persons for Murder Attended by Difficulty.

WATSEKA, Ill., March 16.—Examination of talesmen in the trial of Dr. W. R. Miller, Mrs. Lucy Sawyer and John Grunden, for the killing of Mrs. Sawyer's husband, J. B. Sawyer, continued today.

The adverse attitude and prejudice displayed by the talesmen thus far examined in the special panel has been such that, under instructions from Judge Dwell, Sheriff Heikes is preparing to call another panel of 150 talesmen. Five of the special panel were quickly challenged for cause by the defense, all stubbornly declaring that they had formed an opinion which could with difficulty be changed.

## THIRTY-SIX MILES COVERED.

Pedestrian Weston Makes Good Progress on Long Walk.

GREAT BEND, Kan., March 16.—Edward Payson Weston, pedestrian, arrived last night at 9 o'clock, completing his thirty-sixth mile for the day. He did not appear to be greatly fatigued in spite of his seventy-two mile walk yesterday. Weston has lost twenty pounds since starting on his journey, but a physician last night pronounced him in good physical condition. Weston is seven days ahead of his schedule.

## BIG LAWYERS TALK

Closing Arguments Heard in Standard Oil Case.

## JUSTICES ASK QUESTIONS

Running Fire of Interrogations Aimed at Attorney Watson.

## SMILE ON WICKERSHAM'S FACE

Attorney General Apparently Well Pleased With Trend of Opposing Counsel's Arguments.

The closing arguments in the great contest over the dissolution of the Standard Oil Corporation are being made this afternoon in the Supreme Court of the United States. By 4:30 o'clock the last word will have been said by contending counsel, according to arrangements made Monday, and the entire case will be before the high tribunal for final decision.

How long the court will take to consider the question no one professes to know, but many are guessing that the decision will not be announced earlier than the first or the middle of May.

Three of the greatest lawyers in the United States had been preparing for weeks for this day. D. T. Watson of Pittsburgh and John G. Johnson from Philadelphia have been priming for the Standard Oil's battle on the final day, while Attorney General Wickersham has been delving into the intricacies of the case with a view of making the final argument for the government.

Even more lawyers were crowded into the little courtroom to listen to the arguments than had been there on either of the two preceding days of the hearing. Every one of the sixty seats provided for spectators was occupied and three or four times as many waited outside the courtroom for an opportunity to enter.

## Mr. Watson's Argument.

Mr. Watson had begun his argument late yesterday. One of his tasks was to convince the court, if possible, that the only act of alleged conspiracy or monopoly before it was the combining of corporations in 1899. This was the only act of the Standard Oil Company for the eastern district of Missouri had decreed against, and as the government had not appealed he argued the Supreme Court could consider the other alleged monopolistic activities talked about by opposing counsel.

He is a familiar figure in the Supreme Court. His peculiarities in dressing the court are well known. A new supply of quill pens are provided by court employees after he concludes an address to the court, because of his fondness for jamming the pens, points downward, against the table with all his power, by way of emphasizing an argument.

Mr. Johnson is likewise seen often in the Supreme Court. He presented the principal argument on behalf of the American Tobacco Company at its recent hearing before the court, and he is to appear again later in the week as one of the leading counsel in the corporation tax cases.

Mr. Wickersham's first great contest before the court since he became Attorney General was in the tobacco case. Today's was his second.

## Questions From Bench.

Scarcely had Mr. Watson taken up the thread of his argument of yesterday to the effect that the only question before the court was the combining of 1899, when Justice McKenna interrupted.

"Do you say there is before this court only the question of combining?" asked the justice.

"Nothing before or nothing following," replied the counsel. "The lower court put the case purely and simply on that fact."

"Why did they decree the distribution of this stock?" insisted Justice McKenna.

"Ah! that's what I want to know," said Mr. Watson. "They said they did so because you ordered them to do so in the Northern Securities case."

Mr. Watson then went on to argue that the Northern Securities case did not apply. He commanded the attention of the largest audience that has crowded into the courtroom in years. Rules were broken and lawyers three and four rows deep stood in the available room.

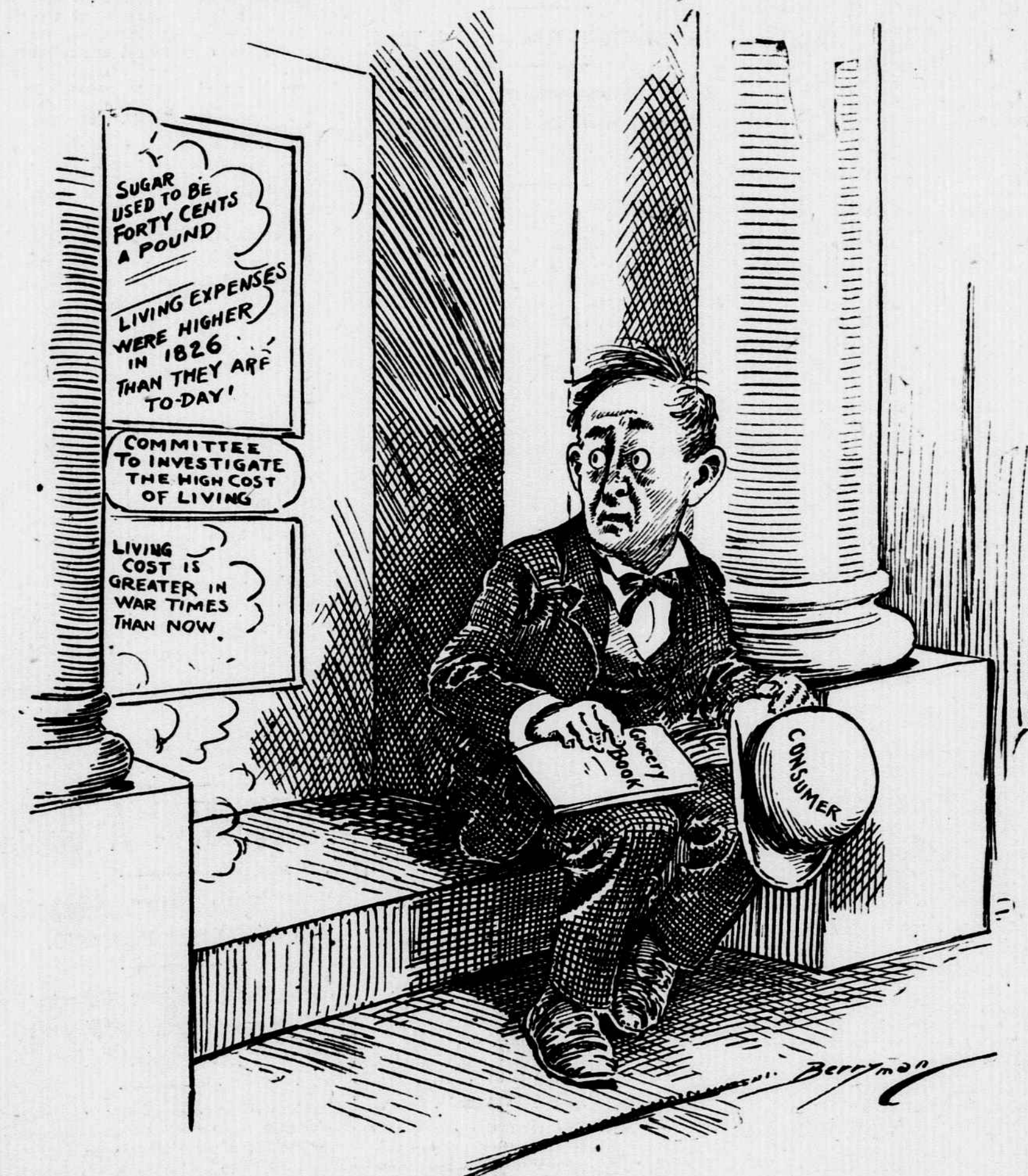
In a few minutes Mr. Watson was brought back to the questions before the court.

"You are a rule unto yourselves," replied Mr. Watson.

"Have you been talking about law or equity?" inquired Justice Harlan.

Mr. Watson assured him it was of equity.

Justice White wanted to know if Mr.



DOUBTFUL CONSOLATION.

Watson had authority for such a doctrine as he advanced.

"Oh, yes. I have three or four in my brief."

"Give me one; I want to see it now," added the justice.

"Certainly. I can't turn to it just now, but I am not trying to dodge," explained Mr. Watson.

Mr. Wickersham's smile developed into a full-grown laugh.

"I'll have one of my assistants find it," said Mr. Watson. Just as his time expired, fifteen minutes later, he read some citations.

Justice Harlan suggested if there were a question of disputed fact the court would have to go into the record.

"It will take you six months, then, to read those 20,000 pages," suggested Mr. Watson.

## Mr. Wickersham Begins.

At 12:30 Attorney General Wickersham took up the closing argument of the government.

"I can well understand the desire of the defendants to cast the veil of oblivion over the past," he began. "But what does the court hold?" he asked after reading several statements in Mr. Watson's brief in support of his argument.

"It holds that the acts previous to 1899 did not violate the Sherman anti-trust law because this law was not passed until 1890. But it did say that these acts had been considered as evidence of a continuing conspiracy."

He then began to consider the early history of the Standard Oil as throwing a light on the combination of 1899.

"They brought one of the proudest railroads in the world to its knees," said the Attorney General, speaking of the Standard Oil when organized in the 70s as the Standard Oil of Ohio. "They compelled terms never before heard of in the world. It not only required rebates on its own shipments, but it levied tribute on the shipments of competitors. What wonder they grew! What wonder they became rich! They grew richer and richer until it became a national scandal; until the courts and the legislatures were appealed to. Then, and only then, did they consent to the Standard Oil of Ohio."

When the police revived him he gave the name of John O'Donnell. He had to have a six-inch scalp wound sewed up.

## WOMAN LAID OUT BURGLAR.

Found Lump of Coal More Efficacious Than a Revolver.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 16.—Mrs. George Blakely of Sharpburg has more faith in a lump of coal than in a six-shooter as a defense against burglars.

While a man was trying to break into her little store, over which she lived, she took a lump of coal from her kitchen and, raising the window noiselessly, stuck it on the head of the intruder.

When the police revived him he gave the name of John O'Donnell. He had to have a six-inch scalp wound sewed up.

## With or Without Law, Gallinger Would Prevent Child Debauchery.

UNITED STATES SENATE, COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Washington.

March 15, 1910.

To the Editor of The Star, Washington, D. C.:  
Dear Sir: I have read with amazement and horror the article in The Star of this evening dealing with the open violation of the liquor laws of the District of Columbia by young men and young women, who frequent resorts of a disreputable kind. It seems almost incredible to me that such conditions exist in the city Washington, and yet I am forced to believe that it is so from the narrative as printed in your paper.

I note the suggestion that the police are powerless to prevent the miserable condition, which I am not at all disposed to accept as a fact, and I feel sure that Maj. Sylvester, in view of the publicity that The Star has given to the matter, will find some way to bring about a better condition of things.

If the police cannot do it, then the citizens of the city ought to organize a law and order league, or a vigilance committee, and take the matter into their own hands.

Permit me. Very respectfully yours,  
J. H. GALLINGER.

## DANISH EXPLORER DEAD.

Hovgaard Believed in Cook Till Claims Were Discredited.

COPENHAGEN, March 16.—Commodore Hovgaard, the Danish arctic explorer, died today.

Commodore Hovgaard figured prominently in the functions arranged in honor of Dr. Frederick A. Cook upon his recent visit to Copenhagen. He was one of the first to credit the claims of the arctic explorer.

Following the rejection of Cook's claims by the University of Copenhagen, the Danish explorer declared that, though it had not been proven that the American did not reach the north pole, he could regard Cook thereafter only as an impostor.

## REPORTS ON MISSION WORK.

Officers Elected at Louisville Biennial Meeting of Churches.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 16.—The second biennial meeting of the Presbyterian and Reformed churches of America devoted its sessions today to reports of committees concerning the work of foreign missions, home missions, work among the colored people, efforts of the church in Christian education, and the financial condition of the churches.

Officers were elected late yesterday as follows: President, the Rev. J. R. Howerton, D. D., professor of philosophy at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va.; vice president, Robert N. Willson of Philadelphia; secretary, Rev. William H. Roberts, D. D., of Philadelphia; treasurer, Rev. F. D. McGill of Pittsburgh.

## FORTY LIVES LOST.

Portuguese Bark, Laden With Emigrants, Wrecked at Sea.

LISBON, March 16.—The Portuguese governor of the Azores cabled from Horta, Island of Fayal, that the Portuguese bark reported yesterday as lost in a storm off Pico Island was loaded with emigrants bound for America. Forty lives were lost. Twenty-three of the passengers and crew were saved. The bodies of twenty-eight persons have been washed ashore.

The governor reports that the bark was an old hulk and inadequately manned. When the survivors reached land they ran terror-stricken into the hills. The vessel foundered soon after sailing from Pico.

## DENIES BRYAN RUMOR.

Mack Says Attempt to Throttle Nebraska Would Be Unnecessary.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., March 16.—Chairman Norman E. Mack of the national democratic committee last night denied reports that the councils of democratic party leaders held here are to "freeze" Bryan followers out of party affairs.

Mr. Mack explained that Mr. Bryan had made it so plain that he would not again attempt party leadership that any attempt to throttle Mr. Bryan's influence would be unnecessary.

Mr. Mack said he believed that the democrats were a unit in wanting the strongest man for leadership, and that when it became apparent who was the best man the democrats would unite in his support.

## SAW HER CHILD MANGLED.

Mother Fell in Faint Almost in Front of Car.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 16.—In her eagerness to reach a nickelodeon, where she was being taken, six-year-old Sarah Nelson of Carnegie raced ahead of her mother and in crossing a street was struck by a car which mangled her left foot so that amputation was necessary.

Mrs. Nelson plunged forward to rescue her little one, but fell in a faint almost in front of the car wheels, after they had crushed the child.

## FOLLOWED LEADER TO DEATH.

Child at Play Fell Into Kettle of Scalding Water.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 16.—Celeste Flick, four years old, met her death at her home in Ford City by trying to emulate her brother in a game of "follow-the-leader." Celeste, with a number of other children, was romping about the house when they came across a large covered kettle of hot water from which steam was puffing out beneath the lid.

Her eight-year-old brother was the "leader." He sat on the lid a moment and then it was Celeste's turn. The lid tilted with the child and plunged her into the scalding water, inflicting burns from which she died.

## Twenty-Three Autos Burn Up.

CAMDEN, N. J., March 16.—Twenty-three automobiles were wrecked by fire which today destroyed the garage of J. G. Reeves in this city.

The loss, which falls on the individual owners of the machines, is estimated at \$75,000. The loss on the garage was \$5,000.

## TAFT ON LONG TRIP

Auto, on Way to Station, Nearly Runs Down Woman.

## PRESIDENT GIVES WARNING

Machine Then Narrowly Misses Hitting Trolley Car.

## CHICAGO PLANS RECEPTION

Executive Also Will Visit Rochester, Albany, New York and Other Cities.

President Taft left Washington at 9:10 o'clock this morning on his way to Chicago, where he will address tomorrow the Irish Fellowship Club, the National Conservation Association and fill several other engagements. The President was accompanied by Capt. Archibald Butt, his military aid, and Charles C. Wagner, one of the White House stenographers.

The President will travel 2,500 miles before he returns to Washington on March 23. From Chicago he will go to Rochester, Albany, New Haven, Conn.; Providence, R. I., and New York City.

Shortly after leaving the White House on his way to the station the President had an extremely exciting moment. The big White House automobile, bearing him and his aid, Capt. Butt, narrowly escaped running down a woman. The heavy car, running at good speed, was crossing 14th street on New York avenue when a woman darted in front of the machine. Instantly the chauffeur applied the brakes, bringing the car to a sudden stop. The President, seeing the impending accident, was on his feet in an instant and shouted a warning. The car then continued on its way and narrowly missed hitting a trolley car.

## Will Have Busy Day.

The President's visit to Chicago is primarily for the purpose of attending the annual St. Patrick's day banquet of the Irish Fellowship Club of that city. He also will be the guest of that organization at luncheon. From the moment of his arrival, however, until he leaves Chicago, shortly before midnight tomorrow, he will be busy. He will ride with a military escort from one of the suburban stations to his hotel, will visit the Newspaper Club, the Traffic Club, will attend a conservation meeting in the afternoon at the Auditorium, and will be tendered a reception at the Hamilton Club and will wind up the day with the Fellowship banquet.

## To Be Guest of Gov. Hughes.

Arriving at Rochester the afternoon of Friday, the 18th, the President will be the guest of the chamber of commerce at a banquet that evening. He will spend the night in Rochester, and, leaving there early Saturday morning, will proceed to Albany, where for two days he will be the guest of Gov. Hughes at the state executive mansion. During his stay in Albany the President will attend the Tuberculosis Congress, a banquet of the University Club and will be tendered a reception at the Hamilton Club and will wind up the day with the Fellowship banquet.

Monday the President will attend a meeting of the Yale Corporation at New Haven, and, proceeding to Providence that afternoon, will be the guest of the Rhode Island Manufacturers' Association and will spend the night at the Hotel Providence. At the Hotel Providence, which will be a guest of honor.

Providence, the President will proceed to New York, arriving there the morning of the 22d to spend the entire day. He will be entertained at the New York Press Club in the afternoon, and in the evening will attend a banquet of the American Peace and Arbitration Society and look in at a dinner to be given by the New York county republican committee to Herbert Parsons.

## MEMORIAL TO COLUMBUS.

Countess Annie Leary Plans to Honor America's Discoverer.

NEW YORK, March 16.—Announcement was made last night that Countess Annie Leary of New York, created a countess by the king of Spain, plans to found a great memorial to Christopher Columbus.

It is said that land has been already donated for the purpose, but no further details were given.

## RETURNS SEALED VERDICT.

Investigation of Lieut. Janney's Death Completed.

MANILA, March 16.—The military investigation into the shooting of Lieut. Clarence M. Janney of the 12th Infantry, who was killed by his own gun at the home of Col. Robert F. Ames at Fort William McKinley, has been completed, and the report placed in the hands of Maj. Gen. William H. Carter, commanding the Department of Luzon. The findings of the special board of inquiry are not revealed.

Mrs. Janney, wife of the lieutenant, had planned to leave for Hongkong, en route for San Francisco, but was informed that her testimony would be required at the inquest. She was accompanied by her mother and in crossing a street was struck by a car which mangled her left foot so that amputation was necessary.

Mrs. Nelson plunged forward to rescue her little one, but fell in a faint almost in front of the car wheels, after they had crushed the child.

## BRITISH-PORTUGUESE ROW.

Boundary Question in East Africa Causes Falling Out.

LISBON, March 16.—The Diario announces that a serious conflict between Portuguese and the British officials engaged in delimiting the frontier has occurred at Tete, a town on the southern bank of the Zambezi river, in Portuguese East Africa, and that as a result lively notes are now being exchanged between the governments of Portugal and Great Britain.

## Private Audience With Pope.

ROME, March 16.—Mgr. Ambrose Agius, apostolic delegate to the Philippines, was received today in private audience by the pope.

## Fire Throws 400 Out of Work.

NEWARK, Ohio, March 16.—The American bottle works, owned by New York capitalists, was damaged to the extent of \$75,000 today by fire. Four hundred men are thrown out of employment.

## Maurice Hutin Dies in Paris.

PARIS, March 16.—Maurice Hutin, former president of the New Panama Canal Company, died today.

## EVIL WAYS NOTED; LICENSES GRANTED

Police Reports of Barroom Revelries Not Sufficient to Check Bad Business.

## CONVICTIONS IN COURT

Will Put Stop to It All

## Excise Board Cannot Heed Warnings of Evil Done to Youth.

ITS DUTY CLEARLY DEFINED

Denunciation of Music Hall Features, Unsupported by Criminal Proceedings, of No Value.

Seven documents in the office of the excise board at the District building tell mutely an eloquent story in corroboration of The Star's assertion that there are resorts in Washington running in open violation of the law which prohibits sale of liquor to minors.

## Letter of the Law.

An amendment to the taxation laws for the District, dated April 25, 1904, provides:

"That hereafter it shall be unlawful for the licensee, owner, proprietor, or any employee of a licensee, owner or proprietor, of any barroom or any other establishment in the District of Columbia in which intoxicating liquors of any kind are sold, to sell, give or dispense in any manner intoxicating liquors of any kind to any person under the age of twenty-one years."

"Any person knowingly violating the provisions of this paragraph shall be amenable to a fine of \$25 or imprisonment for thirty days, or both, in the discretion of the court, and in addition to such penalty the licensee for the place in which such intoxicating liquors were sold to a minor shall be revoked."

These are the reports on seven applications for barroom licenses for places with ragtime music attachments, where drinks are sold to women.

In each case the man who asks for a license promises to "abide by all rules and regulations that are or may be made by the excise board of the District of Columbia in accordance with existing law."

Also in each case the lieutenant of the precinct where the resort is located has made a report which shows plainly that the police have accurate knowledge of what is going on.

Convinced with those interested in seeing that the excise law is carried out reveals that they know in a general way that liquor is sold to young women under twenty-one. Yet, in each case of the licenses, along with the adverse report of the police lieutenant, there is a record that the license has been granted.

Excise Board's Duty Defined.

The excise board knows that these places are being reported against. But what of it? When one analyzes the two short paragraphs of law at the head of this column it is found that the excise board cannot act without something stronger than reports.

What is needed is prosecutions and convictions according to the law.

The courts are instructed to find and imprison barkeepers who violate the excise laws. The excise board must revoke the license of the man whom the police find in violation of the law.

There is no other way to read the law. It does not say "may revoke" the license. It says "shall revoke" the license.

Lieut. Sprinkle of the first precinct has a blanket form of general remarks which he has applied to several resorts in his jurisdiction. They all look alike to him and he is bitterly opposed, as he says in the record, and has asked that license be refused if the music hall feature is not eliminated.

## Criticism of Police.

Exactly what he has said, as it appears in the documents, is this:

"The applicant for this license has, in connection with his barroom, a dining room in which he has music and other attractions which, in the opinion of the police, are of a character which do not belong to a legitimate barroom or restaurant, they remain and indulge more freely than they would otherwise. This, perhaps the first downward step, often leads to a life of evil connections."

"To this character of place I am bitterly opposed and feel that I must protest. I therefore recommend that this license be rejected unless the music hall attractions are eliminated."

With one of these licenses there is a record of a fight which upset the place. Also there is the statement which shows that women of questionable character visit them. The policeman's record is perhaps formal and draws no accurate picture of what the "attractions" are.

## Cadets in Transgression.

Yet alongside these women of questionable character on any night you can see some young girl whose face has not yet lost its freshness, who has not yet learned what to do with paint. The younger girl drinks while the crowd roars its approval of the music. The "questionable" woman carries herself with an air of abandon that becomes part of the atmosphere of the evening. And the young girl, excited and influenced by the liquor, perhaps has been tempted beyond her strength.

In spite of it, the license had been granted.

Take another case. The blank form asks these questions:

"Is the applicant worthy of a license? Are the premises, or have they been within the past year, the resort of dis-